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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/084,056	02/28/2002	Noel Kerjean	Q68613	6464

7590 05/06/2004

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037-3213

EXAMINER
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WEAVER, SUE A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3727

DATE MAILED: 05/06/2004

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/084,056

Applicant(s)

KERJEAN, NOEL

Examiner

Sue A. Weaver

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-18 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9 and 19 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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1. The indicated allowability of claims 2, 5, 8, 12, 15, 18 and dependent claims 6, 7, 16 and 17 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Bindon, Eggeman and Bealmar. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 1-4, 10, 11-14 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bindon in view of Adams et al, of record.

Bindon teaches a system for a rope or cord which has many uses and includes a member 10 on a loop (30) retaining two strands through channels 14 to form a closed loop defining an aperture (34) The member includes a first retainer (22) for retaining a portion of the cord loop for forming a double loop as shown in Figure 4B. In the event that applicant doesn't agree that the rope is equivalent to a cord, Adams et al teach a rope (20) which is a cord which is forms a double loop as part of a carrying system. To have used a cord would have been most obvious in view of the teaching by Adams et al. Member 14 of Bindon forms the second retainer while catch member 22 has a groove and since it provides frictional engagement with the rope is considered to have a dimension smaller than the cross sectional dimension of the rope, as claimed. Note that member 20 of Adams et al is greater than 40 cm.

3. Claims 5-7 and 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the references as applied to claims 4 and 14 above, and further in view of either Prosen of record or Bealmar.

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To have further provided the device with a lock by forming a channel with an dimension which engages the rope and resists movement would have been obvious in view of such teaching by either Prosen at 7 or Bealmar et 109.

4. Claims 8 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the references as applied to claims 1 and 11 above, and further in view of Eggeman

To have provided the device of Bindon with a second catch or a fastening would have been obvious in view of such teaching by Eggeman at 20.

5. Claims 9 and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. Applicant's arguments, see pages 2 and 3 of the response, filed 2/9/04, with respect to the rejection of claims 11-20 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph and the objection to the claims have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection and objections of claims 11-20 have been withdrawn.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3, 4, 10-18 and 20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Gimmig et al Roberts et al and Rogers show other loop attachments for carrying systems.

8. The following are suggested formats for either a Certificate of Mailing or Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8(a). The certification may be included with all correspondence concerning this application or proceeding to establish a date of mailing or transmission under 37 CFR 1.8(a). Proper use of this procedure will result in such communication being considered as timely if the established date is within the required period for reply. The Certificate should be signed by the individual actually

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depositing or transmitting the correspondence or by an individual who, upon information and belief, expects the correspondence to be mailed or transmitted in the normal course of business by another no later than the date indicated.

### **Certificate of Mailing**

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Please refer to 37 CFR 1.6(d) and 1.8(a)(2) for filing limitations concerning facsimile transmissions and mailing, respectively.


9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sue A. Weaver whose telephone number is (703) 308-1186. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday.

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\_The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SW

  
Sue A. Weaver  
Primary Examiner